

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 IO-13 SSM-05 ACDA-10 EUR-12 TRSE-00 OES-06
FEA-01 ERDA-07 NRC-07 DHA-02 /130 W
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R 261117Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3193
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 5152

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR EG US
SUBJ: PREPARATIONS FOR SADAT'S U.S. VISIT

1. MORNING PAPERS MARCH 26 FOCUS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON PREPARATIONS FOR SADAT'S VISIT TO U.S.
2. REGULAR SATURDAY MORNING MEETING OF SENIOR GOE OFFICIALS AT PRESIDENCY WILL CONCENTRATE ON ISSUES PRESIDENT SHOULD RAISE IN WASHINGTON INCLUDING, ACCORDING TO AHAM, DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC AND MILITARY COOPERATION, U.S. "COMMITMENT" TO COOPERATE WITH EGYPT IN NUCLEAR FIELD, INCREASE OF IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL, ISRAELI SETTLEMENT POLICY IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, AND GENERAL ME SITUATION.
3. FAHMY IS REPORTED TO BE DISCUSSING WITH BOTH AMERICAN AND SOVIET AMBASSADORS DETAILED "VISUALI-
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ZATIONS" OF PEACE PROCESS.

4. PALESTINIAN LEADERS ALSO QUOTED AT SOME LENGTH ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT. PLO "FONMIN"QADDUMI, FOR EXAMPLE, ANNOUNCES EXCOMM WILL MEET IN DAMASCUS IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF ITS MEETING WITH SADAT, DURING WHICH EXCOMM MEMBERS "EXHIBITING PRO-

FOUND INTEREST" IN WASHINGTON TRIP. ARAFAT QUOTED AS TELLING LOCAL JOURNALISTS PALESTINIANS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT WHICH, ARAFAT HOPED, WOULD RESULT IN CLEAR STATEMENTS WHICH WOULD ASSIST THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. "THE MAXIMUM" U.S. SHOULD DO, ARAFAT ADDED, IS "NOT TO STAND AGAINST UN RESOLUTIONS (READ RES 3236) OR AGAINST WOULD UNITY. ARAFAT CAREFULLY EMPHASIZED THAT PALESTINIANS ARE PEACE LOVING PEOPLE.

5. SADAT'S BUSINESS WEEK INTERVIEW MAKES HEADLINES, THOUGH IT OFFERS NOTHING NEW. IF USG SO WILLS, PRESIDENT IF QUOTED AS SAYING, " PEACE AT GENEVA WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN ONE MONTH," AND IF GENEVA FAILS, MY PEOPLE WILL BLAME US NOT ISRAEL. "MY PEOPLE KNOW ISRAEL DOES NOT WANT PEACE," THUS THEY WILL BLAME US FOR NOT EXERTING SUFFICIENT EFFORT TO REACH SETTLEMENT. SADAT URGED USG PREPARE GROUNDWORK WELL FOR MEPC AND OBSERVED PALESTINIANS MUST BE "REPRESENTED" IN GENEVA.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE HEAVY REPORTING ON GOE'S GEARING UP FOR WASHINGTON TRIP AND GENEVA, THERE IS NO MENTION OF MARCH 29 MEETING IN DAMASCUS OF SADAT ASAD, FAHD, AND ARAFAT WHICH WE HAD UNDERSTOOD HAD BEEN ARRANGED AS FINAL SUMMIT STRATEGY SESSION BEFORE SADAT'S TRIP TO U.S. AND ASAD'S TO MOSCOW.
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